

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The listing of claims presented below replaces all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1 – 30 (Canceled).

Claim 31 (Currently amended): ~~The resin composition as claimed in claim 22,~~

A resin composition comprising a biodegradable resin and an organically modified layered silicate, the organically modified layered silicate comprising a layered silicate and a substituted silyl group, the substituted silyl group bonding to the layered silicate and comprising a substituted or non-substituted alkyl group, and the layered silicate being selected from the group consisting of kanemite, makatite, magadiite, and kenyaite,

wherein the substituted silyl group further comprises a substituent and the substituent directly bonds to a silicon atom of the substituted silyl group,

wherein the number of carbon atoms in the alkyl group is 3 or greater and 18 or less, and

wherein the substituent is selected from the group consisting of an epoxyethyl group, an epoxyethyloxy group, a 1-phenylvinyl group, a 4-vinylphenyl group, and an isocyanate group.

Claim 32 (Currently amended): ~~The resin composition as claimed in claim 27,~~

A resin composition comprising a biodegradable resin and an organically modified layered silicate, the organically modified layered silicate comprising a layered silicate and a substituted silyl group, the substituted silyl group bonding to the layered silicate and comprising a substituted or non-substituted alkyl group, and the layered silicate being selected from the group consisting of kanemite, makatite, magadiite, and kenyaite,

wherein the substituted or non-substituted alkyl group is a substituted first alkyl group, the substituted first alkyl group comprises a substituent, the substituent bonds to a terminal of the first alkyl group, and the substituent comprises a non-substituted second alkyl group, and

wherein the total of the number of carbon atoms in the first alkyl group and the number of carbon atoms in the second alkyl group is 3 or greater and 18 or less, and

wherein the substituent is selected from the group consisting of an N-oxymethyleneamino group and an N,N-di(oxymethylene)amino group.

Claim 33 (Currently amended): ~~The resin composition as claimed in claim 22,~~

A resin composition comprising a biodegradable resin and an organically modified layered silicate, the organically modified layered silicate comprising a layered silicate and a substituted silyl group, and the substituted silyl group bonding to the layered silicate and comprising a substituted or non-substituted alkyl group,

wherein the substituted silyl group further comprises a substituent selected from the group consisting of an amino group, an epoxyethyl group, an epoxyethyloxy group, a vinyl group, an isopropenyl group, a 1-phenylvinyl group, a 4-vinylphenyl group, an

isocyanate group, and a hydroxyl group and the substituent directly bonds to a silicon atom of the substituted silyl group, and

wherein the number of carbon atoms in the alkyl group is 3 or greater and 18 or less, and

wherein the layered silicate is selected from the group consisting of kanemite and makatite.

Claim 34 (Currently amended): ~~The resin composition as claimed in claim 27;~~
A resin composition comprising a biodegradable resin and an organically modified layered silicate, the organically modified layered silicate comprising a layered silicate and a substituted silyl group, and the substituted silyl group bonding to the layered silicate and comprising a substituted or non-substituted alkyl group,

wherein the substituted or non-substituted alkyl group is a substituted first alkyl group, the substituted first alkyl group comprises a substituent selected from the group consisting of an amide linkage, an ester linkage, an N-oxymethyleneamino group, and an N,N-di(oxymethylene)amino group, the substituent bonds to a terminal of the first alkyl group, and the substituent comprises a non-substituted second alkyl group, and

wherein the total of the number of carbon atoms in the first alkyl group and the number of carbon atoms in the second alkyl group is 3 or greater and 18 or less, and

wherein the layered silicate is selected from the group consisting of kanemite and makatite.

Claim 35 (New): A resin molded object, wherein the resin molded object is obtained by molding the resin composition as claimed in claim 31.

Claim 36 (New): A resin molded object, wherein the resin molded object is obtained by molding the resin composition as claimed in claim 32.

Claim 37 (New): A resin molded object, wherein the resin molded object is obtained by molding the resin composition as claimed in claim 33.

Claim 38 (New): A resin molded object, wherein the resin molded object is obtained by molding the resin composition as claimed in claim 34.